

MAERAY JOYCE A
86 KAHUI 1648

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 31

KAFBI 01648 120938Z

ACTION NEA-11

```
INFO LCG-00 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00 H-01
      NSCE-00 NSAE-00 HA-09 I-03 PM-10 PA-01 CMF-01
      SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01
      ( ADS ) W
```

P 120851Z DEC 86

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRICRITY 5781

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL PESEAWAR

USIA WASHDC 1477

CIA WASHDC

C C N F I D E N T I A L KAEUL 1648

E.O. 12356: DECL: CADR

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PINR, AF, UR, PINS

SUBJECT: GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIB LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

1. (ICU) PDPA GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIE LEFT FOR MOSCOW ON THE AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 11 AMIDST EXTRAORDINARY SECURITY PROCEDURES. KAPUL LOCAL TELEVISION, ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 11, ANNOUNCED THE

VISIT WHICH WILL BE NAJIB'S FIRST SINCE BECOMING
PEPA GENERAL SECRETARY IN MAY. ACCOMPANYING NAJIB
WERE MANY SENIOR PARTY AND STATE OFFICIALS INCLUDING

PRIME MINISTER SULTAN ALI KESFTMANI, DEPUTY PRIME
MINISTER NCCR AHMED NCCR, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR
SAYED MOHAMMED GULABZOI, MINISTER OF STATE SECURITY

GHULAM FARUQ YAUQUEI AND NEW MINISTERS OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE ABDUL WAKIL AND MOHAMMED RAFIE
(ALL POLITBURO MEMBERS EXCEPT FOR ABDUL WAKIL).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUI 01648 120938Z

2. (LCU) SECURITY PRECAUTIONS FOR MAJIE'S DEPARTURE WERE EXTRAORDINARY. SOVIET-CREWED, ARMORED VEHICLES TOOK UP DEFENSIVE POSITIONS ALONG THAT PORTION OF PERIMETER ROAD WHICH BORDERS THE AIRPORT WHILE AT LEAST ONE

PLATOON OF SOVIET TROOPS WERE SEEN FANNING OUT IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA (AFGHAN) NEAR THE AIRPORT.

MEANWHILE, SOVIET FORCES DEPLOYED NUMEROUS SMOKE-GENERATING DEVICES, INCLUDING SMOKE POTS AND AT LEAST ONE VEHICLE-MOUNTED SMOKE GENERATOR

NORTE OF THE AIRPORT WHICH CREATED A THICK
HAZE OVER MOST OF THE AIRPORT AND ITS ENVIRONS.
(THIS TACTIC WHICH WE HAVE NOT NOTED BEFORE AND
THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS UNCLEAR, PRESUMABLY
WAS RELATED TO THE DEPARTURE.) AS NAJIB'S

CONFIDENTIAL

03115507030

PAGE 1

MABRAY JOYCE A
86 KABUL 1648

0011000000
04/07/89 132406 PRINTER: WS

CONFIDENTIAL

TU-154 LEPARTEL, IT WAS ESCORTED BY FOUR MI-24'S EACH FLYING LOW DISPENSING A HIGH VOLUME OF INCENDIARY FLARES (TO DIVERT SAM'S). THE TU-154 IMMEDIATELY CLIMBED EXTREMELY RAPIDLY REACHING APPROXIMATELY 20,000 FEET AFTER ONLY A FEW MINUTES.

3. (C) COMMENT:

(A) NAJIB'S VISIT TO MOSCOW COMES ON THE HEELS OF PAKISTANI DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABIUL SATTAR'S VISIT THERE AND IN THE WAKE OF THE PIPA 20TH PLENUM WHICH STRIPPED BAERAK KARMAI OF HIS REMAINING PRINCIPAL PARTY AND STATE POSTS AND WHICH PRECEDED BY DAYS REMOVAL OF THE DRA DEFENSE AND FOREIGN MINISTERS.

(B) THE VISITS OF NAJIB AND SATTAR TO MOSCOW, FOLLOWING GORBACHEV'S TRIP TO INDIA AND THE RECENT CERDOVEZ SHUTTLE, SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIET-LPA AND PAKISTANI SIDES MAY BE STRIVING FOR A BREAKTHROUGH ON

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KABUL 01648 122938Z

A TIMETABLE FOR WITDRAWAL (INCLUDING BOTH QUESTIONS OF WITHDRAWAL INTERVAL AND WHEN A WITDRAWAL WOULD BEGIN). ON THE OTHER HAND THE SOVIETS MAY SIMPLY BE ATTEMPTING TO POSITION THEMSELVES IN A MORE POSITIVE WAY FROM A PROPAGANDA PERSPECTIVE, ESPECIALLY

IN LIGHT OF THE FAILURE OF THEIR OCTOBER "WITDRAWAL" RUSE AND CONTINUED INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE, EVIDENCED BY THE LATEST UNGA VOTE ON AFGHANISTAN.

(C) WE STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND CONTINUED PARTY FACTIONALISM WITHIN THE DRA AND PDPA WILL ALSO BE ON THE AGENDIS. WE EXPECT THAT MOSCOW WILL CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE TO NAJIB THE NEED TO AVOID TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE EXACERBATING TENSIONS WITHIN THE PARCHAM FACTION OF THE PDPA, A POSITION WE HAVE BEEN TOLD REPEATEDLY THAT THE SOVIETS WERE HAVE TAKEN WITH NAJIB IN RECENT MONTHS.

(D) THERE ALSO MAY BE AN ELEMENT INVOLVED OF THE "LAYING ON OF HANDS," I.E., SOVIET LEGITIMIZATION OF THE CURRENT REGIME. IN ANY CASE, CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF DRA HEAVY HITTERS IN THE DELEGATION, WE EXPECT THIS TO BE NEITHER AN EXTENDED VISIT NOR FOR THERE TO BE ANY RESOLUTION OF THE CORE PROBLEM OF HOW NAJIB CAN CONSOLIDATE POWER WITHOUT FURTHER ANTAGONIZING HIS PARTY OPPONENTS. END COMMENT.

4. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. TALUM
CONFIDENTIAL

0011000000